

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A method of screening to identify a gene whose function is unknown previously, as a target for drug development, which comprises:

- (a) examining the expression of ~~an mRNA~~ mRNAs and/or expression sequence ~~tag tags~~ being a product products of gene expression before and after an event by using a high-density oligonucleotide array, and making a scatter diagram showing changes in expression levels of the mRNAs and/or expression sequence tags between before and after the event,
- (b) determining ~~these~~ one or more specific mRNA mRNAs and/or expression sequence tags whose expression has changed in response to the event, from the results in the scatter diagram and from databases searches,
- (c) for each of said one or more mRNAs and/or expression sequence tags whose expression has changed in response to the event, designing a probe that will specifically hybridize with the mRNA and/or expression sequence tag ~~whose expression has changed in response to the event~~,
- (d) performing *in situ* hybridization of ~~a tissue or cell sample~~ at least two types of tissues or cells of an organism before and after the event by using the one or more probe probes designed in step (c),
- (e) examining the localization of the one or more mRNA mRNAs and/or expression sequence ~~tag tags~~ in the tissue tissues or cell cells before and after the event,
- (f) determining whether the localization of those mRNA mRNAs and/or expression sequence tags ~~whose localization~~ has changed in response to the event, and
- (g) identifying those mRNA mRNAs and/or expression sequence tags whose expression and localization have both changed in response to the event as targets a target for drug development,

~~wherein the function of the gene and/or expression sequence tag is unknown before~~

screening.

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the mRNA and/or expression sequence tag is expressed in cultured cells or tissue.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the gene encoding the mRNA and/or expression sequence tag has been cloned.

17. (currently amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the localization ~~and expression~~ of at least two ~~types of~~ different mRNAs and/or expression sequence tags ~~are~~ is determined in ~~one type of tissue or cell in~~ a single screening of the tissue or cell.

18. (canceled)

19. (previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the gene encodes a substance effective as a drug.

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the gene is related to a disease.

21. (currently amended) The method according to claim 13 ~~further~~ comprising, after step (g), the step of determining the function of the gene.

22. (currently amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the tissue or cell ~~sample~~ is collected from an organism at two or more different points in time after occurrence of an event.

23. (currently amended) The method according to claim 13 or ~~21~~ 22, wherein the event is ischemia or cancer.